

III. Remarks

Claims 25-51, 53, 56-63, 131, and 132 are currently pending. Claims 35, 36, 40-42, 45-47, 49, 53, 59, 60, 62, and 63 stand allowed. Claims 25 and 31-33 stand allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-24, 52, 54, 55, and 64-130 have been canceled.

Claims 25-34

Claims 25, 31, and 33 have now been rewritten in independent form and are in condition for allowance. Claims 26-28, and 34 were previously withdrawn, but are now in condition for allowance as they depend from allowable claims. Claims 29, 30, and 32 are also in condition for allowance since they depend from allowed claims. Thus, claims 25-34 are in condition for allowance and notice to that affect is respectfully requested.

Claims 35-51, 53, 56-63, 131, and 132


Claims 35, 36, 40-42, 45-47, 49, 53, 59, 60, 62, and 63 stand allowed. Claims 37-39, 43, 44, 48, 50, 51, 56-58, and 61 were previously indicated withdrawn, but are now in condition for allowance as they depend from allowable claims. [Note that claim 39 is indicated by the examiner as withdrawn, but, in fact, was identified as reading on the elected species in the original response to election requirement dated June 1, 2006.] The status of claims 131 and 132 was not indicated in the most recent Office action, but these claim are also allowable for depending from allowable claims. Thus, claims 35-51, 53, 56-63, 131, and 132 are in condition for allowance and notice to that affect is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

It is believed that all matters set forth in the Office Action mailed March 12, 2008 have been addressed. In view of the foregoing amendments, the Applicant respectfully requests further and favorable consideration of the present application.

Should the Examiner deem that an interview with Applicants' undersigned attorney would expedite consideration or prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



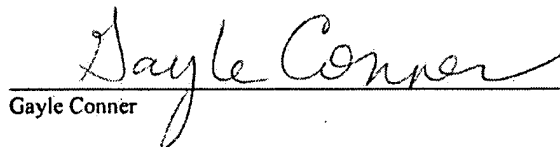
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Date: April 30, 2008

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R-195794_1.DOC

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being file with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via EFS-Web on April 30, 2008.


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